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wherein said at least one delivery valve is held at its other end, in almost permanent sliding contact with the valve plate by a spring secured to the valve plate by second fixing means.

13. (New) The delivery valve device as claimed in claim 12, wherein said spring includes an elastic leaf fixed at one end to the valve plate by said second fixing means and pressing, toward its other end, the at least one delivery valve onto the valve plate.

14. (New) The delivery valve device as claimed in claim 13, wherein said first and second fixing means at a same time fix said at least one delivery valve stop to the valve plate so that the valve stop clamps the at least one delivery valve and the spring onto the valve plate at the first and second fixing means.

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15. (New) The delivery valve device as claimed in claim 12, wherein said first and second fixing means include rivets.

16. (New) The delivery valve device as claimed in claim 12, further comprising pegs fixed into the valve plate to prevent the at least one delivery valve and said spring from rotating.

17. (New) The delivery valve device and as claimed in claim 12, comprising two delivery valves closing two passages in the valve plate, wherein said spring is a single spring for the two delivery valves and said stop is a single stop for the two delivery valves.

18. (New) The delivery valve device as claimed in claim 17, wherein said spring is in a shape of a U with branches that respectively press free ends of the two delivery valves against the valve plate and a central part of which is fixed to the valve plate by said second fixing means, and wherein said at least one delivery valve stop is in a shape of a U with branches acting as respective stops for the delivery two valves, ends of which are fixed to the

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valve plate by said first fixing means and a central part of which is fixed to the valve plate by said second fixing means.

19. (New) The delivery valve device as claimed in claim 12, wherein said fixing means and said at least one delivery valve and said spring are configured to, at a same time, prevent the at least one delivery valve and the spring from rotating.

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cont.
20. (New) The delivery valve device as claimed in claim 19, wherein the fixing means includes rivets collaborating with fixing orifices in said at least one delivery valve and the spring, the fixing orifices having a cross-section of a non-circular shape.

21. (New) The delivery valve device as claimed in claim 20, wherein said shape of the cross-section of the fixing orifices is star shaped.

22. (New) The delivery valve device as claimed in claim 12, wherein said at least one delivery valve has a part of reduced width in a region of lesser stress to adapt to a stiffness of said at least one delivery valve.

IN THE ABSTRACT

Please delete the original Abstract on page 11 in its entirety and insert therefor:

ABSTRACT

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A delivery valve device for a refrigerant compressor. The delivery valve device include a valve plate with the delivery passage closed by a delivery valve fixed at one end to the valve plate and pressed against this valve plate at its free end by a spring. A valve stop is fixed with the delivery valve and the spring to the valve plate to clamp one end of the delivery valve and of the spring onto the valve plate using rivets. The sliding contact of the free end of the delivery valve on the plate avoids valve bounce and flutter. Such a delivery valve may reduce the noise level in refrigeration compressors.